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(54) Title: FUSION PROTEINS CONTAINING N-TERMINAL FRAGMENTS OF HUMAN SERUM ALBUMIN

(57) Abstract

A fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said N-terminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof, then the said polypeptide is one of various specified entities, including the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof. The HSA-like portion may have additional N-terminal residues, such as secretion leader sequences (signal sequences). The C-terminal portion is preferably the 585-1578 portion of human plasma fibronectin. The N-terminal and C-terminal portions may be cleavable to yield the isolated C-terminal portion, with the N-terminal portion having served to facilitate secretion from the host.

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1

Fusion proteins containing N-terminal fragments of human serum albumin

The present invention relates to fusion polypeptides where two individual polypeptides or parts thereof are fused to form a single amino acid chain. Such fusion may arise from the expression of a single continuous coding sequence formed by recombinant DNA techniques.

Fusion polypeptides are known, for example those where a polypeptide which is the ultimately desired product of the process is expressed with an N-terminal "leader sequence" which encourages or allows secretion of the polypeptide from the cell. An example is disclosed in EP-A-116 201 (Chiron).

Human serum albumin (HSA) is a known protein found in the blood. EP-A-147 198 (Delta Biotechnology) discloses its expression in a transformed host, in this case yeast. Our earlier application EP-A-322 094 discloses N-terminal fragments of HSA, namely those consisting of residues 1-n where n is 369 to 419, which have therapeutic utility. The application also mentions the possibility of fusing the C-terminal residue of such molecules to other, unnamed, polypeptides.

2

One aspect of the present invention provides a fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said Nterminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof then the said polypeptide is (a) the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof, (b) the 1 to 368 portion of CD4 or a variant thereof, (c) platelet derived growth factor, or a variant thereof, (d) transforming growth factor, or a variant thereof, (e) the 1-261 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (f) the 278-578 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (g) the 1-272 portion of mature human von Willebrand's Factor or a variant thereof, or (h) alpha-l-antitrypsin or a variant thereof.

The N-terminal portion of HSA is preferably the said 1-n portion, the 1-177 portion (up to and including the cysteine), the 1-200 portion (up to but excluding the cysteine) or a portion intermediate 1-177 and 1-200.

The term "human serum albumin" (HSA) is intended to include (but not necessarily to be restricted to) known or yet-to-be-discovered polymorphic forms of HSA. example, albumin Naskapi has Lys-372 in place of Glu-372 and pro-albumin Christchurch has an altered pro-sequence. The term "variants" is intended to include (but not necessarily to be restricted to) minor artificial variations in sequence (such as molecules lacking one or a few residues, having conservative substitutions or minor insertions of residues, or having minor variations of amino acid structure). Thus polypeptides which have 80%, preferably 85%, 90%, 95% or 99%, homology with HSA are deemed to be "variants". It is also preferred for such variants to be physiologically equivalent to HSA; that is say, variants preferably share at least pharmacological utility with HSA. Furthermore, any putative variant which is to be used pharmacologically should be non-immunogenic in the animal (especially human) being treated.

Conservative substitutions are those where one or more amino acids are substituted for others having similar properties such that one skilled in the art of polypeptide chemistry would expect at least the secondary structure, and preferably the tertiary structure, of the polypeptide to be substantially unchanged. For example, typical such

substitutions include asparagine for glutamine, serine for asparagine and arginine for lysine. Variants may alternatively, or as well, lack up to ten (preferably only one or two) intermediate amino acid residues (ie not at the termini of the said N-terminal portion of HSA) in comparison with the corresponding portion of natural HSA; preferably any such omissions occur in the 100 to 369 portion of the molecule (relative to mature HSA itself) (if present). Similarly, up to ten, but preferably only one or two, amino acids may be added, again in the 100 to 369 portion for preference (if present). "physiologically functional equivalents" also encompasses larger molecules comprising the said sequence plus a further sequence at the N-terminal (for example, pro-HSA, pre-pro-HSA and met-HSA).

Clearly, the said "another polypeptide" in the fusion compounds of the invention cannot be the remaining portion of HSA, since otherwise the whole polypeptide would be HSA, which would not then be a "fusion polypeptide".

Even when the HSA-like portion is not the said 1-n portion of HSA, it is preferred for the non-HSA portion to be one of the said (a) to (h) entities.

The 1 to 368 portion of CD4 represents the first four disulphide-linked immunoglobulin-like domains of the human T lymphocyte CD4 protein, the gene for and amino acid sequence of which are disclosed in D. Smith et al (1987) Science 328, 1704-1707. It is used to combat HIV infections.

The sequence of human platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) is described in Collins et al (1985) Nature 316, 748-750. Similarly, the sequence of transforming growth factors β (TGF- β) is described in Derynck et al (1985) Nature 316, 701-705. These growth factors are useful for wound-healing.

A cDNA sequence for the 1-261 portion of Fn was disclosed in EP-A-207 751 (obtained from plasmid pFH6 with endonuclease PvuII). This portion binds fibrin and can be used to direct fused compounds to blood clots.

A cDNA sequence for the 278-578 portion of Fn, which contains a collagen-binding domain, was disclosed by R.J. Owens and F.E. Baralle in 1986 E.M.B.O.J. <u>5</u>, 2825-2830. This portion will bind to platelets.

. 6

The 1-272 portion of von Willebrand's Factor binds and stabilises factor VIII. The sequence is given in Bontham et al, Nucl. Acids Res. 14, 7125-7127.

Variants of alpha-1-antitrypsin include those disclosed by Rosenburg et al (1984) Nature 312, 77-80. In particular, the present invention includes the Pittsburgh variant (Met³⁵⁸ is mutated to Arg) and the variant where Pro³⁵⁷ and Met³⁵⁸ are mutated to alanine and arginine respectively. These compounds are useful in the treatment of septic shock and lung disorders.

Variants of the non-HSA portion of the polypeptides of the invention include variations as discussed above in relation to the HSA portion, including those with conservative amino acid substitutions, and also homologues from other species.

The fusion polypeptides of the invention may have N-terminal amino acids which extend beyond the portion corresponding to the N-terminal portion of HSA. For example, if the HSA-like portion corresponds to an N-terminal portion of mature HSA, then pre-, pro-, or pre-pro sequences may be added thereto, for example the yeast alpha-factor leader sequence. The fused leader portions of WO 90/01063 may be used. The polypeptide which is

fused to the HSA portion may be a naturally-occurring polypeptide, a fragment thereof or a novel polypeptide, including a fusion polypeptide. For example, in Example 3 below, a fragment of fibronectin is fused to the HSA portion via a 4 amino acid linker.

It has been found that the amino terminal portion of the HSA molecule is so structured as to favour particularly efficient translocation and export of the fusion compounds of the invention in eukaryotic cells.

A second aspect of the invention provides a transformed host having a nucleotide sequence so arranged as to express a fusion polypeptide as described above. By "so arranged", we mean, for example, that the nucleotide sequence is in correct reading frame with an appropriate RNA polymerase binding site and translation start sequence and is under the control of a suitable promoter. The promoter may be homologous with or heterologous to the host. Downstream (3') regulatory sequences may be included if desired, as is known. The host is preferably yeast (for example Saccharomyces spp., e.g. S. cerevisiae; Kluyveromyces spp., e.g. K. lactis; Pichia spp.; or Schizosaccharomyces spp., e.g. S. pombe) but may be any

other suitable host such as <u>E. coli</u>, <u>B. subtilis</u>, <u>Aspergillus</u> spp., mammalian cells, plant cells or insect cells.

A third aspect of the invention provides a process for preparing a fusion polypeptide according to the first aspect of the invention by cultivation of a transformed host according to the second aspect of the invention, followed by separation of the fusion polypeptide in a useful form.

A fourth aspect of the invention provides therapeutic methods of treatment of the human or other animal body comprising administration of such a fusion polypeptide.

In the methods of the invention we are particularly concerned to improve the efficiency of secretion of useful therapeutic human proteins from yeast and have conceived the idea of fusing to amino-terminal portions of HSA those proteins which may ordinarily be only inefficiently secreted. One such protein is a potentially valuable wound-healing polypeptide representing amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin (referred to herein as Fn 585-1578). As we have described in a separate application (filed simultaneously herewith) this molecule contains cell spreading, chemotactic and chemokinetic activities

9

useful in healing wounds. The fusion polypeptides of the present invention wherein the C-terminal portion is Fn 585-1578 can be used for wound healing applications biosynthesised, especially where the hybrid human protein the portion be topically applied. However, representing amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin can if desired be recovered from the fusion protein by preceding the first amino acid of the fibronectin portion by amino acids comprising a factor X cleavage site. After isolation of the fusion protein from culture supernatant, the desired molecule is released by factor X cleavage and purified by suitable chromatography (e.g. ion-exchange chromatography). Other sites providing for enzymatic or chemical cleavage can be provided, either by appropriate juxtaposition of the N-terminal and C-terminal portions or by the insertion therebetween of an appropriate linker.

At least some of the fusion polypeptides of the invention, especially those including the said CD4 and vWF fragments, PDGF and $\alpha_1 AT$, also have an increased half-life in the blood and therefore have advantages and therapeutic utilities themselves, namely the therapeutic utility of the non-HSA portion of the molecule. In the case of $\alpha_1 AT$ and others, the compound will normally be administered as

a one-off dose or only a few doses over a short period, rather than over a long period, and therefore the compounds are less likely to cause an immune response.

EXAMPLES : SUMMARY

Standard recombinant DNA procedures were as described by Maniatis et al (1982 and recent 2nd edition) unless otherwise stated. Construction and analysis of phage Ml3 recombinant clones was as described by Messing (1983) and Sanger et al (1977).

DNA sequences encoding portions of human serum albumin used in the construction of the following molecules are derived from the plasmids mHOB12 and pDBD2 (EP-A-322 094, Delta Biotechnology Ltd, relevant portions of which are reproduced below) or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. DNA sequences encoding portions of human fibronectin are derived from the plasmid pFHDEL1, or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. Plasmid pFHDEL1, which contains the complete human cDNA encoding plasma fibronectin, was obtained by ligation of DNA derived from plasmids pFH6, 16, 54, 154 and 1 (EP-A-207 751; Delta Biotechnology Ltd).

11

This DNA represents an mRNA variant which does not contain the 'ED' sequence and had an 89-amino acid variant of the III-CS region (R.J. Owens, A.R. Kornblihtt and F.E. Baralle (1986) Oxford Surveys on Eukaryotic Genes 3 141-160). The map of this vector is disclosed in Fig. 11 and the protein sequence of the mature polypeptide produced by expression of this cDNA is shown in Fig. 5.

Oligonucleotides were synthesised on an Applied Biosystems 380B oligonucleotide synthesiser according to the manufacturer's recommendations (Applied Biosystems, Warrington, Cheshire, UK).

An expression vector was constructed in which DNA encoding the HSA secretion signal and mature HSA up to and including the 387th amino acid, leucine, fused in frame to DNA encoding a segment of human fibronectin representing amino acids 585 to 1578 inclusive, was placed downstream hybrid promoter of EP-A-258 067 the Biotechnology), which is a highly efficient galactoseinducible promoter functional in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. The codon for the 1578th amino acid of human fibronectin was directly followed by a stop codon (TAA) and then the S. cerevisiae phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) gene transcription terminator. This vector was then introduced into S. cerevisiae by transformation, wherein it directed

the expression and secretion from the cells of a hybrid molecule representing the N-terminal 387 amino acids of HSA C-terminally fused to amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin.

In a second example a similar vector is constructed so as to enable secretion by <u>S. cerevisiae</u> of a hybrid molecule representing the N-terminal 195 amino acids of HSA C-terminally fused to amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin.

Aspects of the present invention will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 (on two sheets) depicts the amino acid sequence currently thought to be the most representative of natural HSA, with (boxed) the alternative C-termini of HSA(1-n);

Figure 2 (on two sheets) depicts the DNA sequence coding for mature HSA, wherein the sequence included in Linker 3 is underlined;

Figure 3 illustrates, diagrammatically, the construction of mHOB16;

13 .

Figure 4 illustrates, diagrammatically, the construction of pHOB31;

Figure 5 (on 6 sheets) illustrates the mature protein sequence encoded by the Fn plasmid pFHDEL1;

Figure 6 illustrates Linker 5, showing the eight constituent oligonucleotides;

Figure 7 shows schematically the construction of plasmic pDBDF2;

Figure 8 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF5;

Figure 9 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF9;

Figure 10 shows schematically the construction of plasmid DBDF12, using plasmid pFHDEL1; and

Figure 11 shows a map of plasmid pFHDEL1.

EXAMPLE 1 : HSA 1-387 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578

The following is an account of a preparation of plasmids comprising sequences encoding a portion of HSA, as is disclosed in EP-A-322 094.

The human serum albumin coding sequence used in the construction of the following molecules is derived from the plasmid M13mp19.7 (EP-A-201 239, Delta Biotech- nology Ltd.) or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. Oligonucleotides were synthesised using phosphoramidite chemistry on an Applied Biosystems 380B oligonucleotide synthesizer according to the manufacturer's recommendations (AB Inc., Warrington, Cheshire, England).

An oligonucleotide was synthesised (Linker A) which represented a part of the known HSA coding sequence (Figure 2) from the PstI site (1235-1240, Figure 2) to the codon for valine 381 wherein that codon was changed from GTG to GTC:

15

Linker 1

	D	P	H	Ē	С	Y						
5′	GAT	CCT	CAT	GAA	TGC	TAT						
3' ACGT	CTA	GGA	GTA	CTT	ACG	ATA						
	1247											

F K D E Α K ٧. TTT TTC GAA AAA GCC AAA GTG GAT TTTAAG CTA CTT AAA CGG TTT CAC 1267

P L V
CTT GTC 3'
GGA CAG 5'

Linker 1 was ligated into the vector M13mp19 (Norrander et al, 1983) which had been digested with PstI and HincII and the ligation mixture was used to transfect E.coli strain XL1-Blue (Stratagene Cloning Systems, San Diego, CA). Recombinant clones were identified by their failure to evolve a blue colour on medium containing the chromogenic indicator X-gal (5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl- β -D-galactoside) in the present of IPTG (isopropylthio- β -galactoside). DNA sequence analysis of template DNA prepared from bacteriophage particles of recombinant clones identified a molecule with the required DNA sequence, designated mHOB12 (Figure 3).

PCT/GB90/00650

M13mpl9.7 consists of the coding region of mature HSA in M13mpl9 (Norrander et al, 1983) such that the codon for the first amino acid of HSA, GAT, overlaps a unique $\underline{Xho}I$ site thus:

Asp Ala

- 5' CTCGAGATGCA 3'
- 3' GAGCTCTACGT 5'

<u>Xho</u>I

(EP-A-210 239). M13mp19.7 was digested with $\underline{Xho}I$ and made flush-ended by S1-nuclease treatment and was then ligated with the following oligonucleotide (Linker 2):

Linker 2

5' T C T T T T A T C C A A G C T T G G A T A A A A G A 3'
3' A G A A A T A G G T T C G A A C C T A T T T T C T 5'

HindIII

The ligation mix was then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue and template DNA was prepared from several plaques and then analysed by DNA sequencing to identify a clone, pDBD1 (Figure 4), with the correct sequence.

of the HSA coding region and one half of the inserted oligonucleotide linker was isolated from pDBD1 by agarose gel electrophoresis. This fragment was then ligated with double stranded mHOB12 previously digested with HindIII and PstI and the ligation mix was then used to transfect E.coli XL1-Blue. Single stranded template DNA was prepared from mature bacteriophage particles of several plaques. The DNA was made double stranded in vitro by extension from annealed sequencing primer with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I in the presence of decxynucleoside triphosphates. Restriction enzyme analysis of this DNA permitted the identification of a clone with the correct configuration, mHOB15 (Figure 4).

The following oligonucleotide (Linker 3) represents from the codon for the 382nd amino acid of mature HSA (glutamate, GAA) to the codon for lysine 389 which is followed by a stop codon (TAA) and a <u>HindIII</u> site and then a BamHI cohesive end:

Linker 3

- E E P Q N L I K J
- 5' GAA GAG CCT CAG AAT TTA ATC AAA TAA GCTTG 3
- 3' CTT CTC GGA GTC TTA AAT TAG TTT ATT CGAACCTAG 5'

This was ligated into double stranded mHOB15, previously digested with <u>HincII</u> and <u>BamHI</u>. After ligation, the DNA was digested with <u>HincII</u> to destroy all non-recombinant molecules and then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue. Single stranded DNA was prepared from bacteriophage particles of a number of clones and subjected to DNA sequence analysis. One clone having the correct DNA sequence was designated mHOB16 (Figure 4).

A molecule in which the mature HSA coding region was fused to the HSA secretion signal was created by insertion of Linker 4 into <u>Bam</u>HI and <u>Xho</u>I digested M13mp19.7 to form pDBD2 (Figure 4).

Linker 4

		w	ĸ	w	v		S	F
		M	7.	**	v		۵	-
5′	GATCC	ATG	AAG	TGG	GT	A	AGC	TTT
	G	TAC	TTC	ACC	CA	T	TCG	AAA
I	S	3	r ,	L	F	L	F	s
AT:	r TC	:C	CTT	CTT	TTT	CTC	TTT	AGC
TA	A AG	G	GAA	GAA	AAA	GAG	AAA	TCG

19 .

F v S R G Y Α S GTG TTT AGG GGT GCT TAT TCC TCG CAC AAA CCA TCC ATA AGG AGC CGA

R R CG 3'

In this linker the codon for the fourth amino acid after the initial methionine, ACC for threonine in the HSA prepro leader sequence (Lawn et al, 1981), has been changed to AGC for serine to create a <u>HindIII</u> site.

A sequence of synthetic DNA representing a part of the known HSA coding sequence (Lawn et al., 1981) (amino acids 382 to 387, Fig. 2), fused to part of the known fibronectin coding sequence (Kornblihtt et al., 1985) (amino acids 585 to 640, Fig. 2), was prepared by synthesising six oligonucleotides (Linker 5, Fig. 6). The oligonucleotides 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 were phosphorylated then polynucleotide kinase and oligonucleotides were annealed under standard conditions The annealed in pairs, i.e. 1+8, 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5. oligonucleotides were then mixed together and ligated with mHOB12 which had previously been digested with the restriction enzymes HincII and EcoRI. The ligation

mixture was then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue (Stratagene Cloning Systems, San Diego, CA). Single stranded template DNA was then prepared from mature bacteriophage particles derived from several independent plaques and then was analysed by DNA sequencing. A clone in which a linker of the expected sequence had been correctly inserted into the vector was designated pDBDF1 (Fig. 7). This plasmid was then digested with <u>PstI</u> and <u>EcoRI</u> and the approx. 0.24kb fragment was purified and then ligated with the 1.29kb <u>BamHI-PstI</u> fragment of pDBD2 (Fig. 7) and <u>BamHI + EcoRI</u> digested pUC19 (Yanisch-Perron, et al., 1985) to form pDBDF2 (Fig. 7).

A plasmid containing a DNA sequence encoding full length human fibronectin, pFHDEL1, was digested with EcoRI and XhoI and a 0.77kb EcoRI-XhoI fragment (Fig. 8) was isolated and then ligated with EcoRI and SalI digested M13 mp18 (Norrander et al., 1983) to form pDBDF3 (Fig. 8).

The following oligonucleotide linker (Linker 6) was synthesised, representing from the PstI site at 4784-4791 of the fibronectin sequence of EP-A-207 751 to the codon for tyrosine 1578 (Fig. 5) which is followed by a stop codon (TAA), a HindIII site and then a BamHI cohesive end:

Linker 6

Q P T V E Y Stop

CAG CCC ACA GTG GAG TAT TAA GCTTG

GTC GGG TGT CAC CTC ATA ATT CGAACCTAG

This linker was then ligated with PstI and HindIII digested pDBDF3 to form pDBDF4 (Fig. 8). The following DNA fragments were then ligated together with BglII digested pKV50 (EP-A-258 067) as shown in Fig. 8: 0.68kb ECORI-BamHI fragment of pDBDF4, 1.5kb BamHI-StuI fragment of pDBDF2 and the 2.2kb StuI-EcoRI fragment of pFHDEL1. The resultant plasmid pDBDF5 (Fig. 8) includes promoter of EP-A-258 067 to direct the expression of the HSA secretion signal fused to DNA encoding amino acids 1-387 of mature HSA, in turn fused directly and in frame acids 585-1578 of human with DNA encoding amino fibronectin, after which translation would terminate at This is then followed by the the stop codon TAA. S.cerevisiae PGK gene transcription terminator. The

plasmid also contains sequences which permit selection and maintenance in <u>Escherichia coli</u> and <u>S.cerevisiae</u> (EP-A-258 067).

This plasmid was introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B (<u>leu2-3 leu2-112 ura3-52 trp1-289 his3- 1</u>) by standard procedures (Beggs, 1978). Transformants were subsequently analysed and found to produce the HSA-fibronectin fusion protein.

EXAMPLE 2 : HSA 1-195 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578

In this second example the first domain of human serum albumin (amino acids 1-195) is fused to amino acids 585-1578 of human fibronectin.

The plasmid pDBD2 was digested with <u>BamHI</u> and <u>BglII</u> and the 0.79kb fragment was purified and then ligated with <u>BamHI</u>-digested M13mp19 to form pDBDF6 (Fig. 6). The following oligonucleotide:

5'-C C A A A G C T C G A G G A A C T T C G-3'

was used as a mutagenic primer to create a <u>XhoI</u> site in pDBDF6 by <u>in vitro</u> mutagenesis using a kit supplied by Amersham International PLC. This site was created by

changing base number 696 of HSA from a T to a G (Fig. 2). The plasmid thus formed was designated pDBDF7 (Fig. 9). The following linker was then synthesised to represent from this newly created XhoI site to the codon for lysine 195 of HSA (AAA) and then from the codon for isoleucine 585 of fibronectin to the ends of oligonucleotides 1 and 8 shown in Fig. 6.

Linker 7

I T E T P S Q P N S H

ATC ACT GAG ACT CCG AGT CAG C

TAG TGA CTC TGA GGC TCA GTC GGG TTG AGG GTG G

This linker was ligated with the annealed oligonucleotides shown in Fig. 3, i.e. 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5 together with XhoI and EcoRI digested pDBDF7 to form pDBDF8 (Fig. 9). Note that in order to recreate the original HSA DNA sequence, and hence amino acid sequence, insertion of linker 7 and the other oligonucleotides into pDBDF7 does not recreate the XhoI site.

The 0.83kb BamHI-StuI fragment of pDBDF8 was purified and then was ligated with the 0.68kb EcoRI-BamHI fragment of pDBDF2 and the 2.22kb StuI-EcoRI fragment of pFHDEL1 into BglII-digested pKV50 to form pDBDF9 (Fig. 9). This plasmid is similar to pDBDF5 except that it specifies only residues 1-195 of HSA rather than 1-387 as in pDBDF5.

When introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B as above, the plasmid directed the expression and secretion of a hybrid molecule composed of residues 1-195 of HSA fused to residues 585-1578 of fibronectin.

EXAMPLE 3 : HSA 1-387 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578, AS CLEAVABLE MOLECULE

In order to facilitate production of large amounts of residues 585-1578 of fibronectin, a construct was made in which DNA encoding residues 1-387 of HSA was separated from DNA encoding residues 585-1578 of fibronectin by the sequence

I E G R
ATT GAA GGT AGA
TAA CTT CCA TCT

25

which specifies the cleavage recognition site for the blood clotting Factor X. Consequently the purified secreted product can be treated with Factor X and then the fibronectin part of the molecule can be separated from the HSA part.

To do this two oligonucleotides were synthesised and then annealed to form Linker 8.

Linker 8

E I N GAA CCT CAG TAA ATT ATT GAA GAG CTT CCA AAT CTC GGA GTC TTA TAA CTT

R I T E T P S Q P AGA ATC ACT GAG ACT CCG AGT CAG C TCT TAG TGA CTC TGA GGC TCA GTC GGG

N S H

TTG AGG GTG G

This linker was then ligated with the annealed oligonucleotides shown in Fig. 6, i.e. 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5 into HincII and <a href="https://example.com/HincII and EcoRI digested mHOB12, to form pDBDF10

26

(Fig. 7). The plasmid was then digested with PstI and EcoRI and the roughly 0.24kb fragment was purified and then ligated with the 1.29kb BamHI-PstI fragment of pDBD2 and BamHI and EcoRI digested pUC19 to form pDBDF11 (Fig. 10).

The 1.5kb <u>BamHI-StuI</u> fragment of pDBDF11 was then ligated with the 0.68kb <u>EcoRI-BamH1</u> fragment of pDBDF4 and the 2.22kb <u>StuI-EcoRI</u> fragment of pFHDEL1 into <u>BglII-digested</u> pKV50 to form pDBDF12 (Fig. 10). This plasmid was then introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B. The purified secreted fusion protein was treated with Factor X to liberate the fibronectin fragment representing residues 585-1578 of the native molecule.

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CLAIMS

1. A fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said N-terminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 359 to 419 or a variant thereof then the said polypeptide is (a) the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof, (b) the 1 to 368 portion of CD4 or a variant thereof, (c) platelet derived growth factor or a variant thereof, (d) transforming growth factor β or a variant thereof, (e) the 1-261 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (f) 278-578 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (g) the 1-272 portion of mature human von Willebrand's Factor or a variant thereof, or (h) alpha-1-antitrypsin or a variant thereof.

- 2. A fusion polypeptide according to Claim 1 additionally comprising at least one N-terminal amino acid extending beyond the portion corresponding to the N-terminal portion of HSA.
- 3. A fusion polypeptide according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein there is a cleavable region at the junction of the said N-terminal or C-terminal portions.
- 4. A fusion polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the said C-terminal portion is the 585 to 1578 portion of human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof.
- 5. A transformed or transfected host having a nucleotide sequence so arranged as to express a fusion polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims.
- 6. A process for preparing a fusion polypeptide by cultivation of a host according to Claim 5, followed by separation of the fusion polypeptide in a useful form.
- A fusion polypeptide according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 for use in therapy.

FIGURE 1

ζZÁ	Ala	His	Lys	Ser	Glu	Val	Ala	His	10 د ح	Phe	Lys	λsp	Leu	Gly	Slu	Glu	Asn	Pne	20 Lys
λla	Leu	Val	Leu	Ile	λίa	Pne	Ala	Gln	30 30	Leu	Gln	Gln	Cys	Pro	Phe	615	qεk	His	40 Lav
Lys	Leu	Val	Asn	Glu	Val	Thr	Glu	Phe	50 Ala	Lys	Thr	Cys	Val	λla	Asp	Glu	Ser	λla	60 Glu
ASTI	Cys	qzk	Lys	Ser	Leu	<u> Ei</u> s	حطت	Leu	70 Phe	Gly	λsp	Lys	Leu	Cys	The	Val	Ala	The	50 Leu
Arç	Glu	The	Tyr	G2y	Glu	Met	λla	λsp	90 Cys	Cys	Ala	Lys	Gln	Glu	250	Glu	Arş	Asn	;00 Glu
Cys	Pne	Leu	Gln	His	Lys	ςελ	λsp	Asn	110 Pro	Asn	Leu	310	λſĢ	Leu	Val	Asş	210	Glu	
, sp	val	Met	Cys	The	Ala	Phe	His	λsp	130 Asn	Glu	Glu	The	'Phe	Lev	Lys	Lys	Tyr	Γeπ	
Glu	Ile	Alz	yrg	بد	His	210	Tyr	Phe	150 Ty=	Ala	Pro	Glu	Leu	Leu	Phe	Pbe	Ala	Lys	
Tyr	Lys	Ala	Ala	Phe	The	Slu	Сув	Суѕ	170 Gln	Ala	λla	ςzλ	Lys	λla	Ala	Cys	Leu	Leu	
Lys	Leu	ÇZÁ	Glu	Leu	Arç	Asp	Glu	Gly	190 Lys	Ala	Ser	Ser	Ala	Lys	Gln	YLŻ	Leu	Lys	
Ala	Ser	Leu	Gla	Lys	Phe	Gly	Glu	Arç.		Phe	Lys	Alā	فتي	Ala	Val	Ala	AT5	Leu	
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Lys	Pro	Leu	Leu	Glu	Lys	Ser	Els	Суѕ		Ala	Glu	Val	Glu	Asn	уsь	Glu	Met	Pro	_
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Glu	Ala	Lys	çzƙ	Val	Phe	Leu	Gly	Met		Leu	Tyr	Glu	TyI	Ala	yıê	ኢ-s	<u> 215</u>		
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Cys	Ala	Ala	Ala	ςzλ	Pro	His	Glu	Cys	370 Tyr	Ale	Lys	72 <u>1</u>	Phe	Asp	Glu	?ce	Lys		

2/18

FIG	URE	1 3	Cont	<u>.</u>															40
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Tyr	Lys	Phe	'Gln	Asn	λla	Leu	Leu	Val	410 Arg		The	Lys	Lys	Val	250	Glm	Val	Ser	42 Th
250	The	Leu	Val	Glu	Val	Ser	Arg	λsπ	430 Leu	Gly	Lys	Val	Gly	Ser	Lys	Cys	Cys	Lys	44 E1
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Leu	Val	Asn	Arş	λrş	Pro	Cys	Phe	Ser	490 Ala	Leu	Glu	7ai	λsp	Glu	The	Tyr	Val	Pro	50 29
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r.a	Gln	Ile	Lys	Lys	Gln	Thr	λla	Leu	530 Val	Glu	Leu	Val	Lys	His	Tàz	Pro	Lys	Ala	5 4 Th
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lia	Ala	Leu	Gly	Leu															

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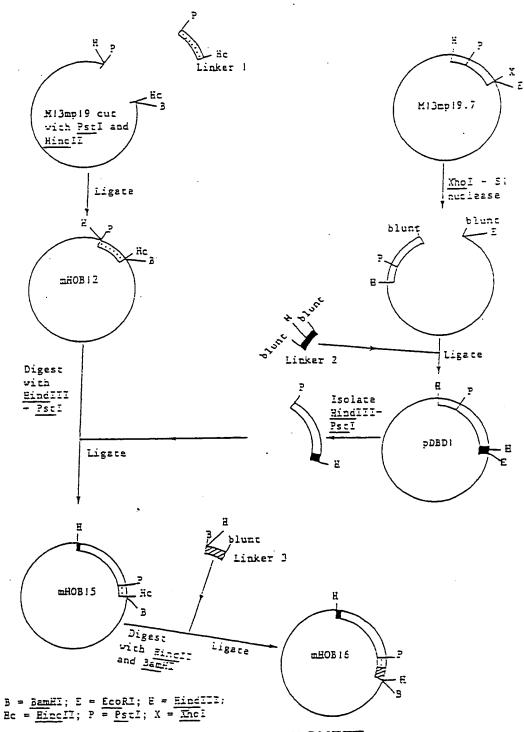
FIGURE 2 DNA sequence coding for mature HSA

	20	30	40	50	60	70	80				
10 GATGCACACAAGAG	TGAGGTTGCTT	ATCGGTTT	AAAGATTTGG	GAGAAĞAAAAT	TTCAAAGCCTT	GGTGTTGATTGC	TIGATIGCCTT				
D A H K S	E V A	H R F	K D L	G E E N	F K A L	. V L I A	. F				
90	100	;10	120	130	140	150					
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330	340 -				380	390					
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410	420	430	440	450 .	460	470	480				
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Y K A A F	T E C	C Q A .	A D K A	. A C L	L P K L	DELR	Đ				
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730	740	750	760	770	780		00				
GTCCACACGGAATGC	rgccatggaga	TCTGCTTG	ANTGTGCTGA:	rgacagggggg	ACCTTGCCAAG	iatateteteaa	A۸				
V H T E C	C H G D	LLI	E C A D	D R A 1	DLAX	A I C · E	N				
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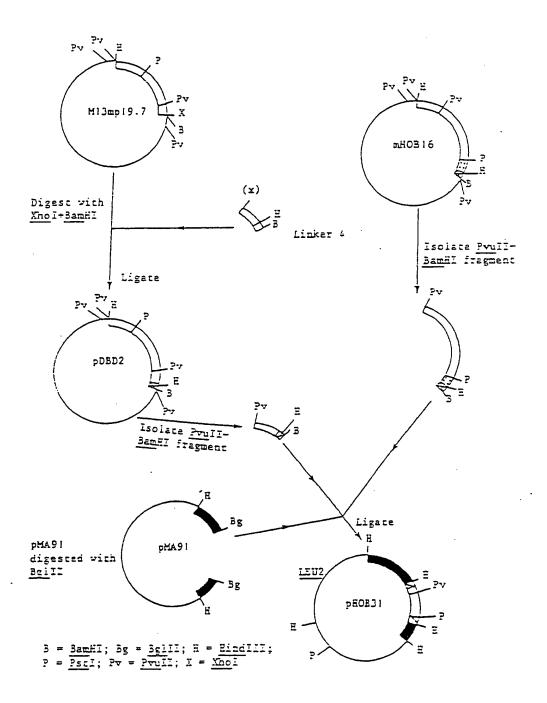
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FIGURE 3 Construction of mHOB16



SUPCTITUTE SHEET

FIGURE 4 Construction of pBOB31



SUBSTITUTE SHEET

Fig. 5A

300 Met 320 137 740 Phe 081 V81 280 Asp Lys Pro 200 Cys <u>ვი</u> გ<u>უ</u> A 60 Lys Lys Asp Asn Cys 410 Asp Asn Met Lys Trp Cys Gly Thr Thr Gln Asn Pro Le Z Arg 150 Pro IIe Ala Glu Lys Cys Phe Asp His Ala Trp Met Met Asp Val Arg 투 Asp Cys Leu Asn Lys Gln GIn Thr Leu Pro Phe Thr Tyr Asn Gly Arg Thr Thr Ser GIN Thr Lys 11e Arg Asn Arg Trp Lys Gly Ser G S Gly HIS Cys Val Ţ 두 Asn 뵨 Ala 잣 Thr Asp His Thr Val Leu Val Tyr Met Leu Glu Cys Val Asn Cys Glu GIn Ser Tyr Arg Val טופ Asn Ser Phe Thr GIn Gly Ala Vai Gly His Leu Trp Cys Ser Ser Gly Asp Thr Trp Ser Gin Trp Glu Arg Cys 11e Gly Gin Gly 뵨 Gly 첫 <u>6</u> Ser Phe Pro Phe Leu Phe Gly Asn Gly Arg Gly Ser Gly Pro Cys Gln Glu Thr Ile Thr Cys 170 Trp Glu Lys Pro Tyr Sin Pro Pro Pro Tyr 290 Gin Trp Leu Lys Thr Gly Asn Thr GJ Va Va N N Gly Trp Asp Cys Thr His Glu Gly Arg ' פֿת Pro Val 190 Gly Arg 210 Arg IIe 30 11e Asn (. S Tyr Thr Ser 350 Asp 939 Par 23 173 250 5er <u>გ</u>გ 130 Thr Trp Arg Arg Pro HIS Glu. Thr Gly Phe Ely Ala Leu Cys Cys Thr Thr Glu Gly Arg Gln Thr Asp Cys Thr Ser Glu Gly Arg Arg 잣 Asn Leu Leu Gln Cys Ile Cys Glu Pro Cys Pro Lys. Asp Ser Met Ile Glu Trp Thr Cys Lys Ser Gin Pro Gin Pro His Pro Lys HIS Tyr GIn Phe Asp Lys Ile Ala Asn Arg Cys Leu Gly Glu Gly Ser Val Gly Met <u>G</u> Val Gly Glu Thr Cys Thr Cys Leu Gly Asn Gly Val GIn Pro GIn Gin Asp Thr Arg Thr Ser Se. Ser Val Gin Thr Thr Ţ ķ Thr Cys Glu Gln Asp Gln Lys Cys Se Asn. Gly <u>₹</u> Κa Ser Asn Cys 투 ጟ Gin Ala Gin Gin Met Glu Glu Thr Tyr Asp Asn Gly Ser ςys Ţ Ś Lys Gly <u>8</u> Asn Thr Asn Ser Glu Arg Ser 뉴 돳 <u>8</u> هام Ş 된 Asp oly S Ser 부 A B Le P Asn Arg <u>G</u> Asn Gly Asp Arg Ser

8/18

Fig. 5E

700 11e Arg 740 760 780 780 780 617 617 617 617 618 619 620 Val 646 Leu 680 Val 600 Asn Phe Ala Arg <u>5</u> Leu Pro Ile GIN Trp B <u>0</u> Leu Asp Leu Pro Ser Ala Gly Ser Ŧ <u>√</u>β Met Arg Ϋ́ Ş 뉴 찻 Asn Asp Asp Ĺys HIS Asn GIY 부 Val <u>ø</u> 챳 Ser È Asp Gly Phe 610 Iyr 11e Leu Arg Trp Arg Pro Lys Asn 430 Cys Pro Met Ala Ala HIs Glu Glu Ile 11e Ser Ser V<u>a</u> ᅺ Gly <u>8</u> Cys Asn Ser Ser Ş 부 7 Leu Ïe Gln Ţ 茾 Ser ۷a 부 Ser Cys Trp Thr Asn Val Phe Gly <u>a</u> 받 ξ 쟛 Ile Gin Gin <u>ე</u> Ser Ser H 늄 E Fro Val Ser Asp Thr Ser Lys Pro Th Çys 2 **1**y Gln Pro Asn Ser Ser Pro Gin Tyr Asp 잣 ħ 630 Gly His Leu Asn Ser Asp Thr آھ ا 잗 Ely Arg Ser Leu Ser <u>8</u> Arg 훋 뵨 井 井 후 Ser G S Asp II e Asn 650 Leu 11e Ser Ala 11e Ser Ser Ala GIn <u>ה</u> Arg Cys Val 530 Cys Gln Asp Arg 730 Asp Glu 750 Pro Ş Ş Ξe <u>8</u> Ala Asp 570 Leu Ĕ GΙ 73 Leu 8.2 8.1 \$ \$ \$ 490 Asp , 55 155 590 670 Ser 690 Leu 670 ASH 550 Leu Asp Gly Glu Leu Asn Leu Pro Glu Gin Pro Ser His Ile Ser Lys Ser Trp G Z Asn Ile Pro Asp Leu Ser 1 e 딘 흔 È Phe Ser Pro Thr 11e Pro Asp Ala Asp Gin Lys Phe Gly Phe Glu Thr Pro Gly ₹ Ş Met G ζa olo G Pro Ile Thr Arg His Asp cys <u>√</u> Asp GIn Cys 1le Τ̈́ Glu Gly Thr Thr <u>8</u> cys , Lys ۷a <u>9</u> G 늄 Trp HIS Gly τŗ Val Pro Ale Pro Phe Asp Phe Phe Val Glu Asp Gly <u>0</u> Ļ Met 븊 Trp Lys Cys Asp Pro Trp Glu Phe 11e Thr Glu Leu Ser Pro Asp Ě Cys <u>9</u> 교 Arg Trp Lys Glu <u>\</u> Š Ser Va. Pro Gly Val Gla Thr Gin Leu Arg Arg HIS Arg Gly S Ser <u>a</u> Pro Arg Ser Ser Ser Ţ Elu Val Asp Met 교 본 le Ser Asp Ala Ser Arg Pro Met G Y 뵨 Gly Ala 민 Asn Ser 工工 Lys Arg ē Ala 놀 <u>@</u> Ś Ser

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1240 Pro Pro Thr Vai 980 Ser Ala Pro Pro . B Ser -₽ ζŞ <u>_</u> Thr Val Thr Lys Ser Thr Pro Ala Val Ś Pro Pro Ξ 큠 Gly Thr Asp 투 . Pe Ala Ile Pro Arg Asn Lys Ser Ser Glu Tyr Gly Leu Pro פות Pro Ser Asp Ŗ 부 Ile. Arg <u>©</u> Pro Š Ě Gly Ser Ala Asp ۷al Arg Val 1230 Asp Thr Ile Ile Pro Ala Val Val Ala Ser Pro Val Asn Lys Leu Pro Ţ <u>&</u> His Ser Glu Ser Leu 1130 Gin Giu Arg Asp Ala Pro Ile 1150 Asn Leu His Leu Glu Ala Asri Pro Ty. Thr Thr Leu Gln Pro Thr Ile Val Ile Thr Leu Thr Pro Gly Leu Val Gly Ile Met G Z Glu Asn Ser <u>8</u> Val G S Leu Glu Tyr Asn Val Phe Gly Pro Asp IIe Thr Gly Asn 부 Asp 144 Ą Ş β Arg Gln Gly Ile I Leu Gln Asn Val Thr Val Ser Val Glu Val ე 망 Thr Met Gln -S Pro Gly <u>s</u> 1190 Leu Glu (Ser Gly Phe 1090 Pro Ser iolo Gln Tyr ξ Asn Ala 1070 Thr 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1050 V&I 293 843 890 Val 양 Pro Asn Ser 11e Ser . Ole Pro Gly Pro Pro Val Arg Thr Thr Val Val Asp Asp Arg Ser $\frac{G}{\sqrt{}}$ 본 <u>S</u> Gly Pro Ala Pro G J Asn ۸la 후 부 Ala Thr <u>k</u> Pro Phe Asp Asn Leu Ser Gly Phe Lys Leu Gly Leu Arg Asp Asn 11e Gly Ser 11e Ser Gin Gin Gly G Pro Lys Ala Pro Pro Thr Thr Lys Leu Asp Arg Ā Phe Val Leu Val Arg Trp Thr Leu Arg Asn Leu Gln Pro Glu Val Gin Tyr Asn 11e 부 Ş. ٧ Glu Arg G S S O G Val Ser ķ Ser Thr Ą G ار. ا Gly <u> I</u>e Val פֿ Thr Asn Gly Ser Ser Ser Trp Tyr Asn GIn Val Phe Thr Ang Glu Ser Pro Phe 보 Leu Arg Leu Asp Lys Asp 칶 G Leu 돳 <u>ام</u> <u>ş</u> 井 Leu Pro Ser Val <u>l</u>le naj Va I Ala Arg Pro 占 구 Pro Asn 고

10/18

ig. 5E

1540 617 1560 617 Trp Asp Ala Pro 1500 Ser 1520 Thr 580 5er 380 Asn Ser Pro Val 1480 Leu Lys Pro Gly 보 Ala Ţ Ala <u>ت</u> Ala Se Let Ā Ser Ze√ _ § Met Gin Val Glu Glu Asp L/3s Ala Pro Thr Lys Thr Lys Thr Set Leu Val Ser Val Asp Va Asp 11e Leu Leu Pro Asn Pro ABA Leu Val ķ Tyr H Ile Ser Ala Leu Lys Asp Asn 흔 Ser ᅣ Ser Ser Val Asn Ser G Ser Ser Pro <u>G</u> <u>6</u> Ser аlу Ser Val GIn Ser Arg Val Arg Val Phe Ş Thr Pro Thr Leu Thr GIN HIS GIU 벁 Leu Leu Ile Ser Gly Asp GIU Ile Asp Lys Pro Ser 부 Val 부 Arg Pro Leu Val Asp Ile Ile 530 Lys Trp Leu Pro Ser Ser Glu Thr Pro Val ۷ Pro 부 Arg Asp Pro Asp Ser 뉴 <u>8</u> GIn Gin alu Tyr <u>a</u> 듄 Тy Val Ser G J Ala <u>/a</u> glu Gly Ala Thr Gly Ser 1470 Lys Ser Thr / Pro Leu <u>G</u>n Val Ala 1430 Thr Pro Thr Arg Arg ¥ 1390 Pro Gly Thr 1410 Pro Leu Leu Ile Giy 1550 Gly 1590 Ser 1610 Thr Asp Leu Lys Phe Thr 1650 Lys Glu Ile Asn Leu Ala 1450 Ile Thr 1570 11e Glu Gly 490 Val 1290 Asp Asn 250 Pro 970 Pro 1330 Pro <u>0</u> Pro Lys Asn Gin Leu Thr Arg Ala 보 11e Ser Val Ser ABA Glu Val Ser 11e Asp Leu Thr Asn Phe Leu Val Gly Arg Ala Arg Se Asp Trp 11e Thr Leu Thr Asn Lau Thr 文 ş Ala Glu Met Thr Se 돳 Thr Lys Tyr Leu Ty. Ser Pro Gly Thr Ile Thr Val Val Pro 뵨 Ş Ş Ile Asn Asn Ser Ξ HIS Phe <u>8</u> Ser Ł Ser S O Ser Asn Ĕ GIn Asn Glu Val Arg Val S Val 후 Va Va Ala. Pro Met Ser Asp 후 <u>G</u>lu 투 Ser 보 <u>k</u> Phe Thr ζŞ Val ê Ala Pro Pro <u>S</u> ۷a Val Arg Per 丰 Ţ 먑 Glu Leu Met Pro ž Ŧ Asp ۷ Asp פוכ Gly δ Leu Asp Trp <u>ره</u> 부 Arg Ala Val Ser Asn

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Cys Thr Cys Leu Gly Asn Gly Lys Gly Glu Phe Lys Cys Asp Pro His Glu Ala Thr Cys 2140

Tyr Asp Asp Gly Lys Thr Tyr His Val Gly Glu Gln Trp Gln Lys Glu Tyr Leu Gly Ala 2160

Ite Cys Ser Cys Thr Cys Phe Gly Gly Gln Arg Gly Trp Arg Cys Asp Asn Cys Arg Arg Pro Gly Gly Glu Gly Thr Thr Gly Gln Ser Tyr Asn Gln Tyr Ser Gin Arg Tyr His Gln Arg Thr Asn Thr Asn Thr Asn Cys Pre Met Pro Leu Arg 2220

Arg Tyr His Gln Arg Thr Asn Thr Asn Thr Asn Cys Pro Ite Glu Cys Phe Met Pro Leu Cys Thr Cys Pre Met Pro Leu Gly Gly Gly Thr Asn Thr Asn Thr Asn Cys Pro Ite Glu Cys Phe Met Pro Leu Cys Tyr His Gln Arg Thr Asn Thr Asn Thr Asn Cys Pro Ite Glu Cys Phe Met Pro Leu Cys Tyr His Gln Arg 2120 Val Asn Tyr Lys Ile Gly Glu Lys Trp Asp Arg Gln Gly Glu Asn Gly Gln Met Met Ser Gin Ala Asp Arg Giu Asp Ser Arg Giu Asp Val

Fig. 5F

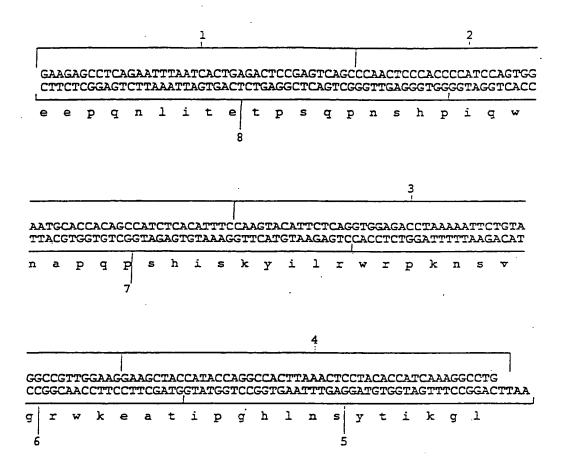


Figure 6 Linker 5 showing the eight constituent oligonucleotides

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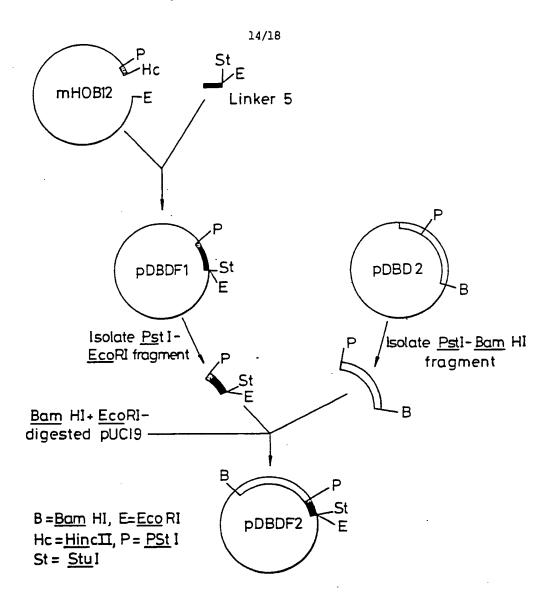


Fig. 7 Construction of pDBDF2

WO 90/13653 PCT/GB90/00650

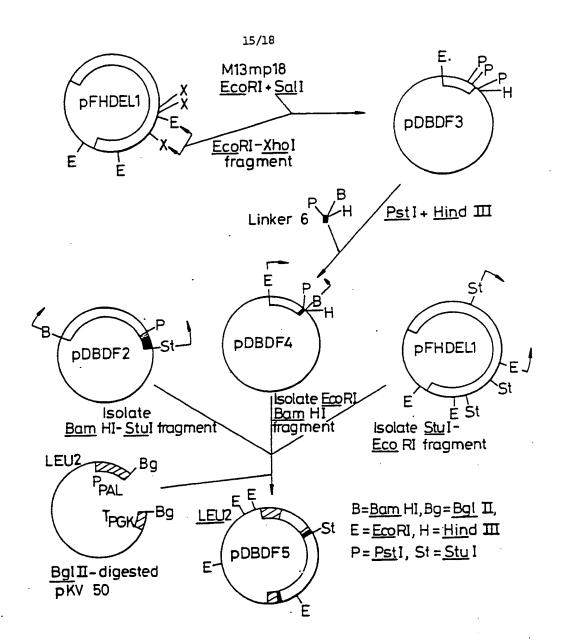


Fig. 8 Construction of pDBDF5

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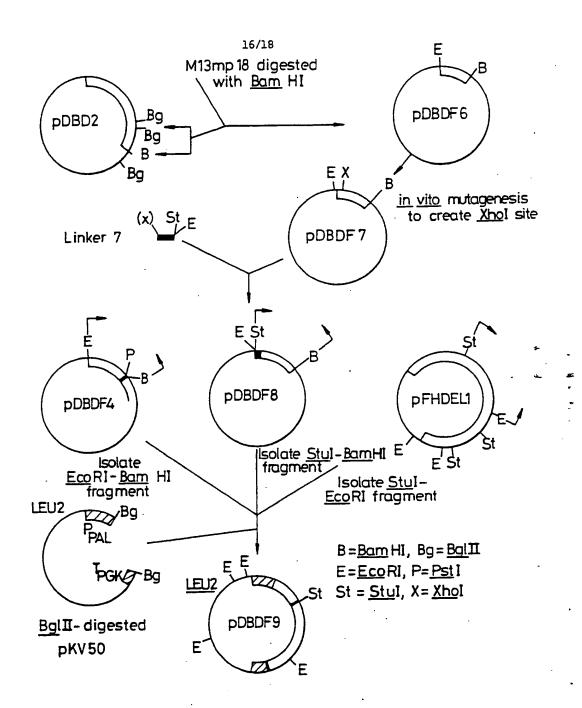


Fig. 9 Construction of pDBDF9

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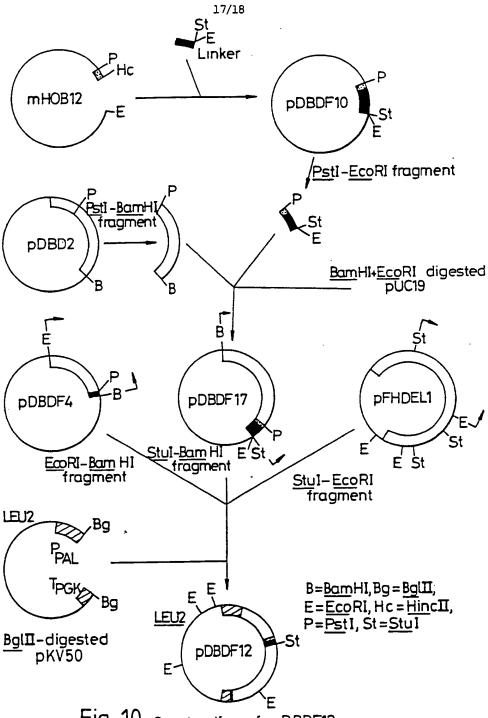


Fig. 10 Construction of pDBDF12

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18/18

Figure 11

Name:

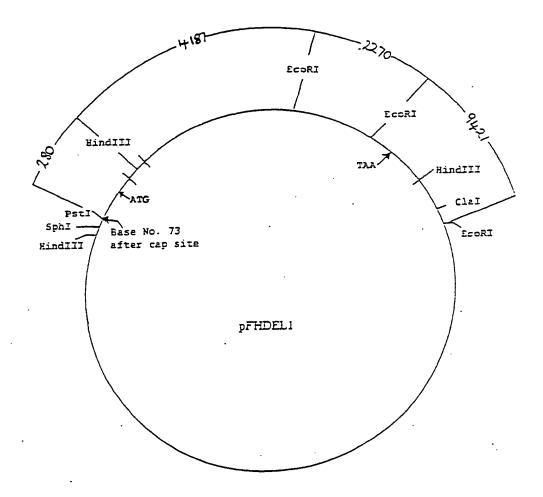
pFHDEL1

Yector:

pUC18 Amp^{fy} 2860bp

Insert:

hFNcDNA - 7630bp



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT International Application No PCT/GB 90/00650 I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) * According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC IPC⁵: C 12 N 15/62, C 07 K 13/00, C 12 P 21/02 II. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum Documentation Searched 7 Classification System | Classification Symbols IPC⁵ C 12 N, C 12 P, C 07 K Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are included in the Fields Searched * III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of Document, " with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 12 Relevant to Claim No. 13 Α EP, A, 0308381 (SKANDIGEN et al.) 22 March 1989 T EP, A, 0322094 (DELTA BIOTECHNOLOGY LTD) 28 June 1989 (cited in the application) Special categories of cited documents: te tater document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clied to understand the principle of theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filling date document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosura, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "A" document member of the same patent family IV. CERTIFICATION Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search Date of Malling of this International Search Report 09. 08.90 10th July 1990

M. SOTELO

Signature of Aythorized Officer

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		SE-B- AU-A- SE-A- WO-A-	459586 2420488 8703539 8902467	17-07-89 17-04-89 15-03-89 23-03-89
EP-A- 0322094	28-06-89	AU-A-	2404688	18-05-89

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